



(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
07.05.2003 Bulletin 2003/19

(51) Int Cl.7: **H04M 3/46, H04M 3/42**

(43) Date of publication A2:
28.06.2000 Bulletin 2000/26

(21) Application number: **99310411.6**

(22) Date of filing: **22.12.1999**

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE
 Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

(72) Inventors:
 • **Stumer, Peggy M.**
Boca Raton, Florida 33431 (US)
 • **Kucmerowski, Dennis L.**
Delray Beach, Florida 33445 (US)
 • **Vandermeiden, David A.**
Boca Raton, Florida 33486 (US)

(30) Priority: **22.12.1998 US 218783**

(71) Applicant: **Siemens Information and**
Communication Networks, Inc.
Boca Raton, Florida 33487 (US)

(74) Representative: **Mohun, Stephen John**
Haseltine Lake & Co.,
Imperial House,
15-19 Kingsway
London WC2B 6UD (GB)

(54) **Network group pickup**

(57) A system and apparatus for enabling supplementary service functions, such as group pickup, to be implemented in a communication network having one or more local servers. The group pickup system is adapted to enable one group member to automatically receive or manually pick up another group member's call from anywhere within the network, including outside the local server in a multiserver network. The group pickup system includes an automatic mode unit (150) for enabling the system to pro-actively seek a group member to take a call and a manual mode unit (152) for enabling the system to search for an alerting group member. The system may further include a local connect unit (153) and a remote connect unit (151) to establish local or remote connections to a group member, respectively. A remote search unit (154) may also be provided for enabling the system to request a remote search. A queue/dequeue unit (155) is provided for selecting a group member from a group list (116). A call establishing unit (156) is provided for establishing a connection between the call and the group member and an answer unit (161) is provided to complete the connection. A notification unit (157) may be provided to notify the system of the completed connection. A release links unit (159) may also be provided to release any temporary links used in establishing the connection. An exception handler (164) may also be provided to deal with any error conditions which may occur.

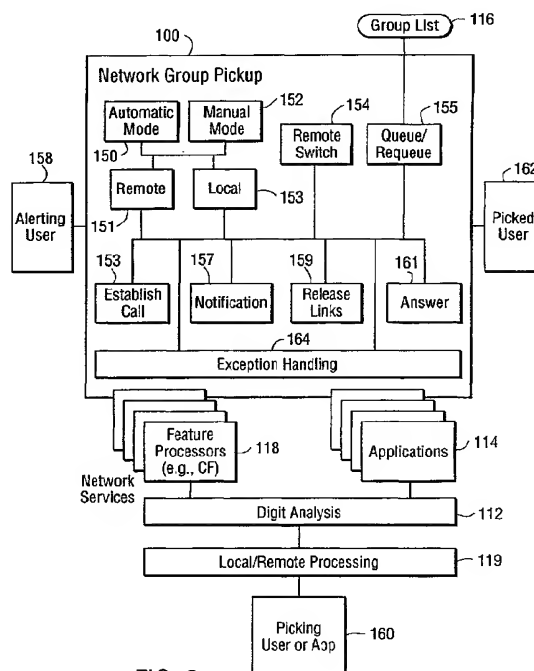


FIG. 3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 31 0411

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	EP 0 549 126 A (AMERICAN TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH) 30 June 1993 (1993-06-30) * column 2, line 49 - column 4, line 17 * * figure 1 * ---	1,3-5,8, 10,11, 13,15, 18,20	H04M3/46 H04M3/42
X	DE 196 23 332 A (SEL ALCATEL AG) 18 December 1997 (1997-12-18) * column 1, line 13 - line 33 * * column 2, line 37 - column 3, line 11 * * column 4, line 44 - line 68 * * abstract * * figure 1 * ---	1,2, 8-10,13, 18	
X	WO 98 15104 A (WILLE KLAUS ;SIEMENS AG (DE)) 9 April 1998 (1998-04-09) * page 1, line 24 - line 29 * * page 2, line 9 - line 11 * * page 3, line 4 - line 13 * * abstract * * figure 1 * -----	1,8, 10-16, 18-20	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			H04M
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 11 March 2003	Examiner Schorgg, A
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 99 31 0411

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11-03-2003

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0549126	A	30-06-1993	US	5206901 A	27-04-1993
			AT	190796 T	15-04-2000
			CA	2078598 A1	24-06-1993
			DE	69230782 D1	20-04-2000
			DE	69230782 T2	17-08-2000
			EP	0549126 A2	30-06-1993
			JP	5260187 A	08-10-1993

DE 19623332	A	18-12-1997	DE	19623332 A1	18-12-1997
			EP	0813330 A2	17-12-1997
			US	2001053219 A1	20-12-2001

WO 9815104	A	09-04-1998	DE	19640266 A1	02-04-1998
			CN	1232590 A	20-10-1999
			WO	9815104 A1	09-04-1998
			EP	0929964 A1	21-07-1999
			US	6320954 B1	20-11-2001

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82